



On February 25, 1841, Pierre August Renoir was born in Limoges, France. When he was four years old, his family moved to Paris. Young Pierre drew pictures on the floor of his father's tailor shop with dress marking chalk. To conserve his chalk, the father supplied Pierre with paper and pencils. Being extremely poor, Pierre began painting flowers on china dishes at age thirteen. Machines then came into use for china painting. Pierre then painted fans and window blinds, and drew pictures on the walls of cafes to earn money for art school.

Renoir was one of the leaders of the impressionistic movement in painting. He turned from this to a form of painting with soft lighting and blurred outlines. Landscapes, scenes of city life, women, children, and flowers were his main subjects. His wife, three sons, and the household servants often served as models. It is said that Renoir's cook was hired more for her flawless complexion than for her cooking ability!

At age 58 Renoir began suffering from rheumatism. The family moved to southern France. During his last ten years Renoir painted propped up in bed, with brushes strapped to his crippled rheumatic hands. He died December 3, 1919.

1. This story is about:
 - (a) paintings
 - (b) an artist
 - (c) china painting
 - (d) rheumatism
2. Pierre's father was:
 - (a) a tailor (b) an artist
 - (c) a painter (d) a designer
3. Renoir's cook was hired for her:
 - (a) flawless cooking
 - (b) ability to paint china
 - (c) flawless skin
 - (d) beautiful painted fans
4. Which was not mentioned as a model for Renoir's work:
 - (a) household servants
 - (b) his sons
 - (c) his daughters
 - (d) his wife
5. Put in time order: Renoir
 - (a) painted flowers on china
 - (b) painted landscapes, scenes of city life
 - (c) drew pictures with marking chalk
 - (d) painted fans, blinds and cafe walls
6. In this story impressionistic has to do with:
 - (a) the act of impressing
 - (b) impressing ones peers
 - (c) a theory or practice in painting
 - (d) sketching your impression of an object
7. Renoir's rheumatism caused him to:
 - (a) give up painting
 - (b) visit health resorts
 - (c) go into the hospital
 - (d) work with brushes strapped to his hands
8. From this story we would say that Renoir:
 - (a) painted only as a hobby
 - (b) gave up easily
 - (c) was dedicated to his art
 - (d) had only a passing interest in painting